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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR/Poland/East Germany	REPORT	25X1
SUBJECT	Soviet Naval Activity in Swinoujscie (Swinemuende) and Warnemuende	DATE DISTR.	15 December 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. a Soviet naval training vessel of about 4,500 DWT, was underway from the roads into the Soviet Port (east) at Swinoujscie. It had one funnel amidships; two low masts, each with four booms of about five tons capacity; two gun-shields in the bows, one to port and one to starboard, and the same arrangement in the stern; two twin-three-inch guns and two 37 mm. A.A. guns in the aft part of the superstructure amidships; a disk-shaped radar antenna resembling the Kelvin & Hughes antenna on the fore-mast, and another hemispherical antenna supported by a special mast on the bridge; and motor launches were stowed on top of holds Nos. 3 and 4. It had four holds, permanently closed, with traps for the crew leading presumably to the living quarters and lecture rooms. 25X1

2. one small minelayer and three motor minesweepers, all flying the Soviet ensign, were sighted off Rozewie Light. The minelayer was engaged in laying small buoys in approximately east-west lines. The southernmost line of buoys was about four miles off the coast. The buoys were about two to three cables apart and the same distance between the lines. There were four lines of buoys. Each buoy was fitted with a four-vane triangular topmark similar to radar reflectors. (See Sketch No. 2.) The three minesweepers had sweeps down and had the international signal hoisted, indicating sweeping. The vessels were sweeping between the lines of buoys heading westwards. The center ship was about one ship's length ahead of the wing ships. 25X1

(See Sketch No. 3.)

3. a cruiser resembling a SVERDLOV-Class cruiser, and two destroyers of the SKORYY Class, berthed in the Naval Harbor. The cruiser appeared to be berthed outside of Basin No. 9 and the destroyers inside. The ships left the harbor 25X1 No clear view of these ships was obtained during their 25X1

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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stay. [redacted] four Soviet motor launches of the ship's launch type were touring the harbor. These launches went all around the harbor visiting each basin in turn. Each launch flew the Soviet ensign and was full of enlisted men. [redacted] three vessels resembling destroyers were sighted maneuvering in a position four to five miles north of Darsserort Light. During the maneuvers, one destroyer was seen to switch on two red lights similar to N.U.C. lights and the three ships split up and then apparently stopped. No further movement was observed. 25X1 25X1

4. [redacted] at Warnemuende, an ex-German U-boat (sic-- tender?) proceeded to sea for trials off the port. After trials, the ship sailed for the USSR, and it was believed locally that its destination was Kronshtadt. During the trials, there were numerous engineers on board from the repair yard and only 55 members of the Soviet crew. It was about 470 feet long and had one large round funnel amidships; and two pole masts, the foremast abaft the bridge and fitted with a large circular crow's-nest, the mainmast abaft the funnel and also fitted with a large crow's-nest. The hull gave the appearance of a light cruiser but it had two steps, the first just abaft the foremast and the second step abaft the mainmast. It had a well raked stem and a square stern, was fitted with very heavy stern anchors and cables, and painted medium grey overall. It was equipped with a large half cheese radar aerial fitted on top of bridge. Its gross tonnage was about 5,000 GRT and it was fitted with large repair shops, and powered by diesel engines giving it a speed of 17 knots. (See Sketch No. 4.) 25X1

5. Four Soviet fleet minesweepers had been in Warnemuende recently for minor repairs. Two German minesweepers used the port at regular intervals. The M.T.B.'s which were based on Warnemuende had left.

6. [redacted] close to No. 5 buoy, off the port of Warnemuende, nine Soviet minesweepers were observed with sweeps down. The sweepers were in three groups of three, on a northerly course, at a speed of about ten knots, and appeared to be doing a magnetic sweep. Each group was formed in line of bearing. (See Sketch No. 5.) A towing wire was over the stern of each sweeper and was supported by five torpedo shaped floats. From the last of these floats the wire was then bridled out to two floats which bore marker flags; abaft the two marker flags were two final floats. The length of the sweep from the stern of the sweeper to the final floats was about 500 feet and the width between the bridled marker floats was approximately 50 feet. Also, from the stern of each sweeper was an electric cable which was triced to the towing wire, but could only be seen as far as the second torpedo float. In the sketch, the first diagram shows the layout for a single ship. The second diagram shows the towing wire and electric cable. The third diagram shows the formation of sweeping. In each diagram, "X" = sweepers, "Y" = floats, and "Z" = floats with flag markers. 25X1

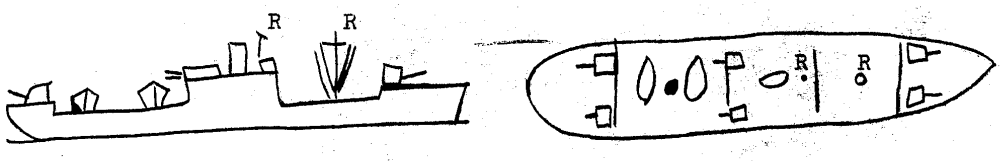
7. [redacted] seven Soviet minesweepers, about 180 feet long, all of similar appearance, arrived in Warnemuende [redacted] After leaving the harbor, these ships steamed away in line ahead on a course of 010° at about ten knots. They each had one funnel with cowl on top of the superstructure, one pole mast with crow's-- nest close to the after end of the bridge, a break in the deck just abaft bridge, a raked stem, a fine bow but with little flare, and a square stern. 25X1 25X1 25X1

They were armed with twin two-inch guns in a shield forward of the bridge, and on the after end of the superstructure. On each side of the bridge at the forecastle deck level, there was a pair of twin Oerlikons. Radar antennas included one cheese type mounted above the bridge and another type fitted on top of the mast as shown in sketch No. 6 and inset. They flew the Soviet ensign. They each had a large winch on the afterdeck and a large horizontal roller on the stern. Two davits were fitted close to the stern.

8. [redacted] eleven Soviet M.T.B.'s were in the base at Warnemuende. 25X1
The M.T.B. base which was situated in the northwest corner of the Breitling, as shown on Sketch No. 7, was surrounded by a barbed wire fence, which extended into the water. The layout of the base is shown in sketch No. 8. The fence was patrolled by armed sentries. There was only one gate, which was on the east side and is shown in the sketch. The base was constructed for 150 men. The crews were housed in prefabricated wooden huts, but when extra craft arrived, the crews were housed in tents outside the fence but messed in the huts. The M.T.B.'s berthed alongside small wooden jetties as shown in the sketch. There was a small floating steam crane attached to the base. The crane had a capacity of five tons and was used for replacing engines.

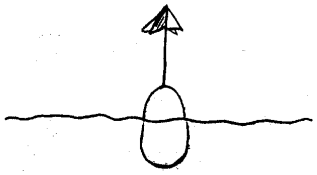
Sketch No. 1:

Soviet training ship:



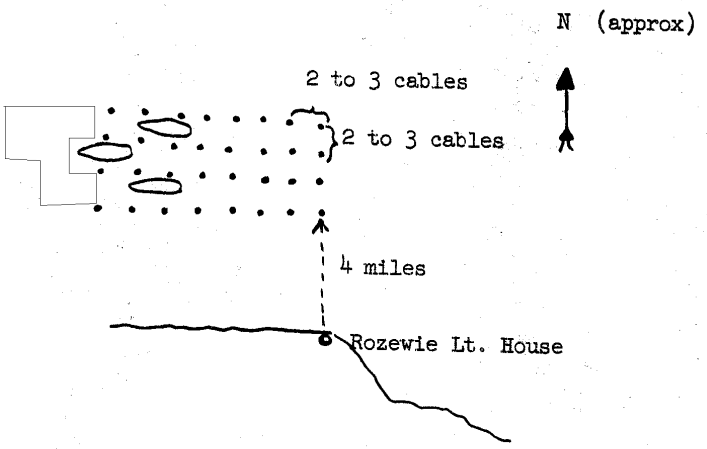
Sketch No. 2:

Buoys laid off Polish coast:



Sketch No. 3:

Minesweeping operation off Polish coast:



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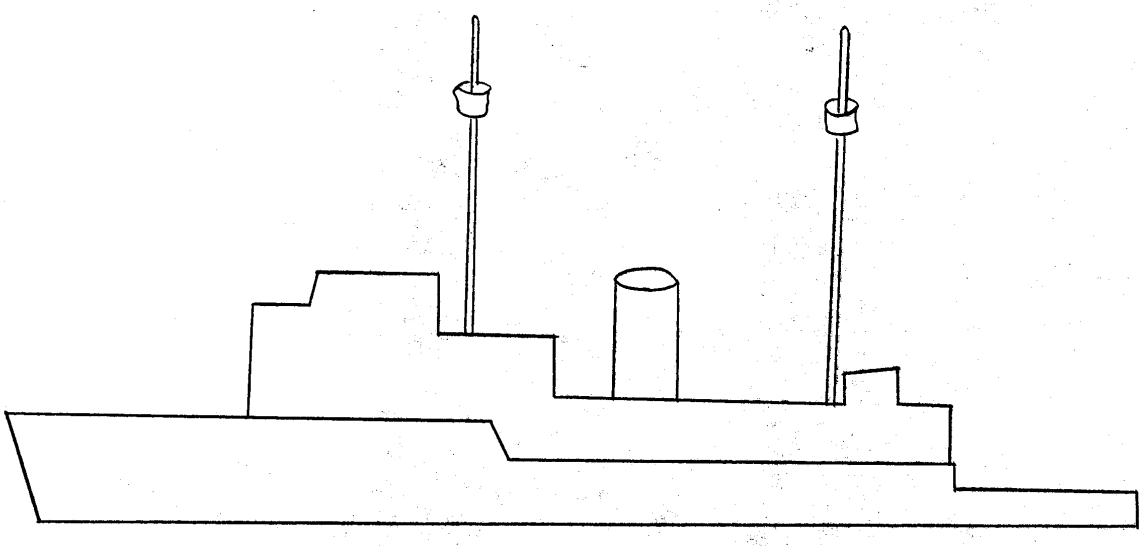
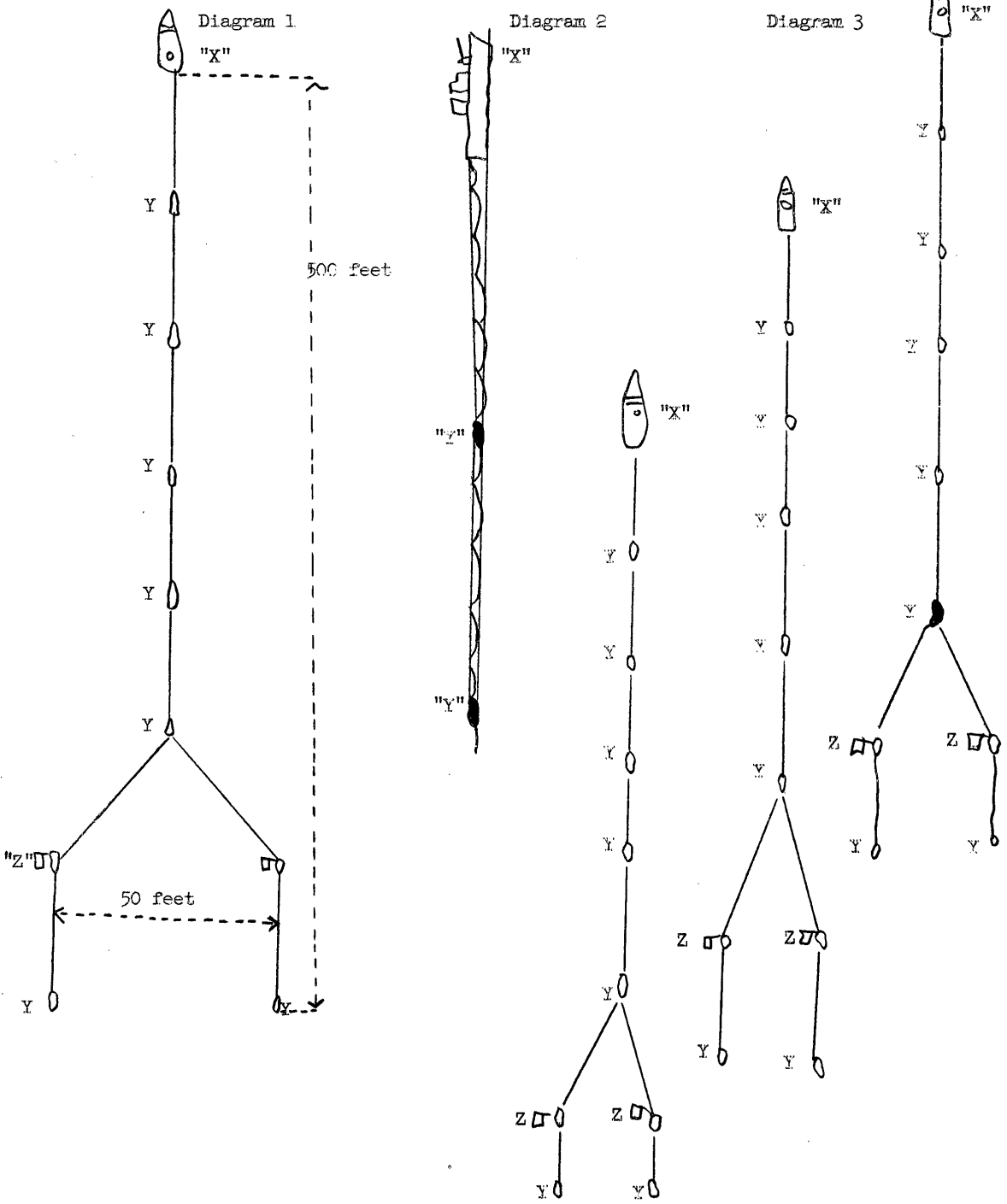
Sketch No. 4:

Vessel conducting trials at Warnemuende:



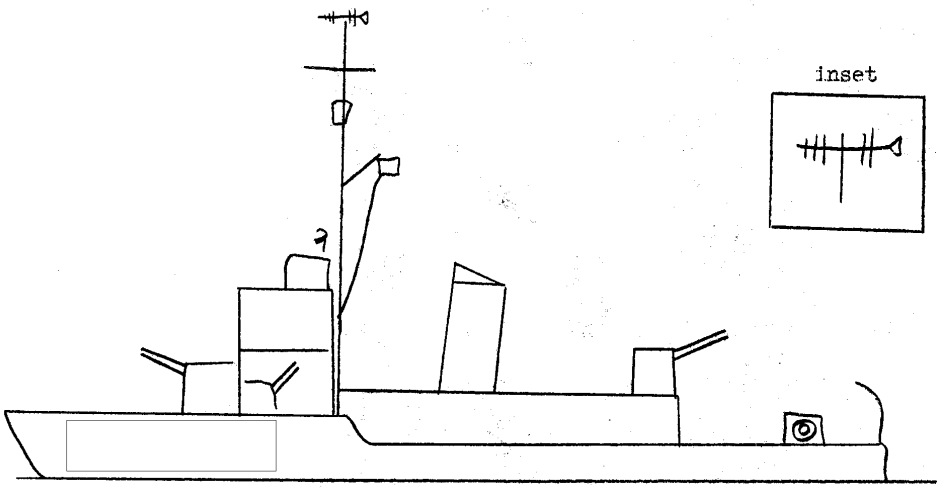
Sketch No. 5:

Soviet vessels sweeping off Warnemuende:



Sketch No. 6:

Minesweepers in Warnemuende:



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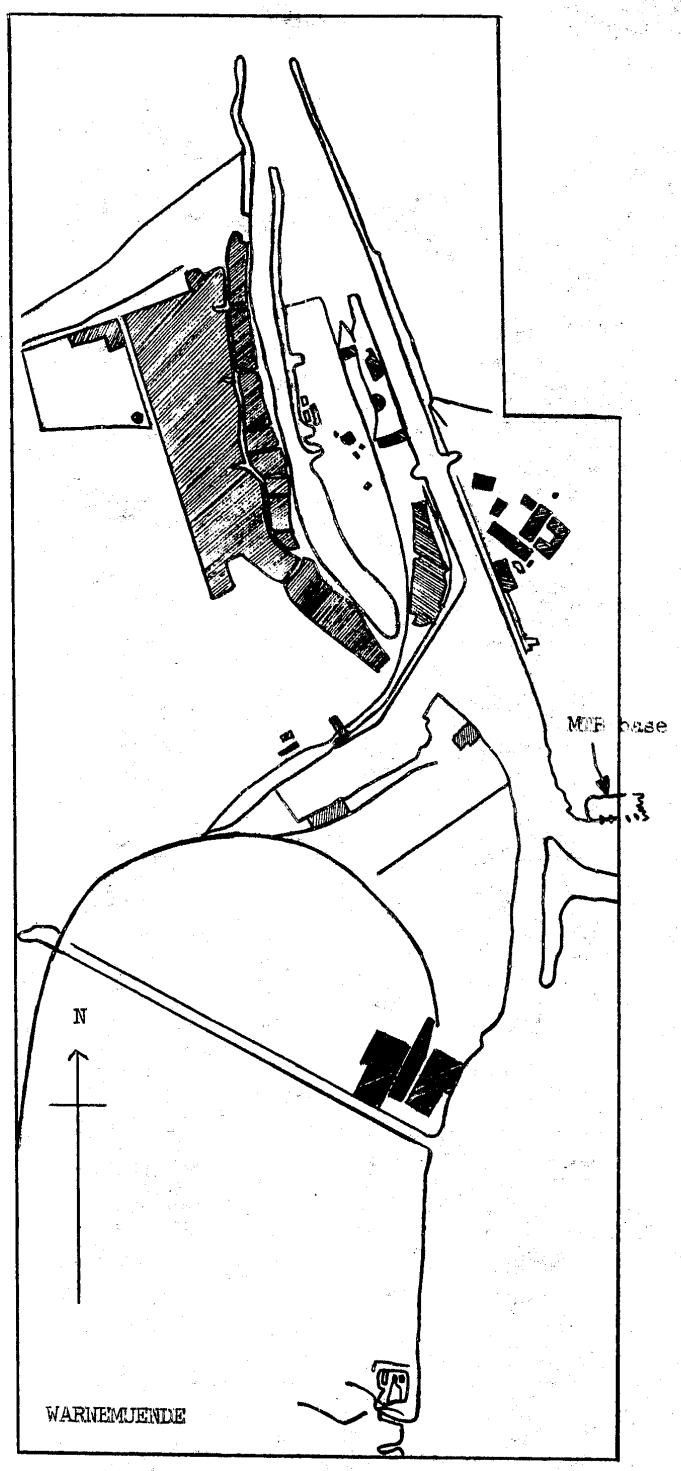
Sketch No. 7:



Sketch No. 8:

Layout of MTB base at Warnemuende: